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MORE BEYONCE SPOILERS {page 18}

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Will Barclays Center ever upset Madison Square Garden? MSG is the 'Taj Mahal' for athletes and performers But Barclays Center is seen as hipper and is drawing high-profile stars {page 02}

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The icon versus the upstart: Will Barclays unseat MSG?

MSG remains center of universe for athletes, performers ● But Barclays seen as hipper and is attracting big names ● Nassau Coliseum most likely to suffer

The Barclays Center has scored some serious wins since opening last fall, playing host to a popular basketball team and a slew of top concerts, from Jay-Z and Coldplay to the Rolling Stones and Barbra Streisand.

Despite having some advantages over Madison Square Garden, experts doubt it will surpass its Manhattan rival anytime soon.

"From a reputation point of view, you have to look at the Garden almost like a historical monument, like Grant's Tomb or the Taj Mahal," John Scher, a veteran concert producer, said.

Robert Boland, a professor of sports management at NYU, listed MSG's hard-to-beat attributes, including its history, the events associated with it and the Fortune 500 companies with nearby offices.

"The prestige of Madison Square Garden as the 'World's Most Famous Arena' really is true," Boland said.

Barclays, on the other hand, benefits from its newness and Brooklyn's hip reputation.

"If you're an artist, you get the benefit of that new 'hot thing,'" said Wayne Forte, president of the booking agency Entourage Talent Associates. "Right now, a lot of people want to go and see."

It also has more open dates for concerts than Madison Square Garden, and signed a management agreement with entertainment powerhouse AEG.

As a result, Boland suspects Barclays will do well and that the New York metropolitan area — with 19 million residents — is more than big enough to sustain two arenas.

The Prudential and Izod centers in New Jersey also don't have much to worry about, Scher claimed.

But the Nassau Coliseum is a different story. In fact, the New York Islanders are moving from there to the Barclays Center in 2015.

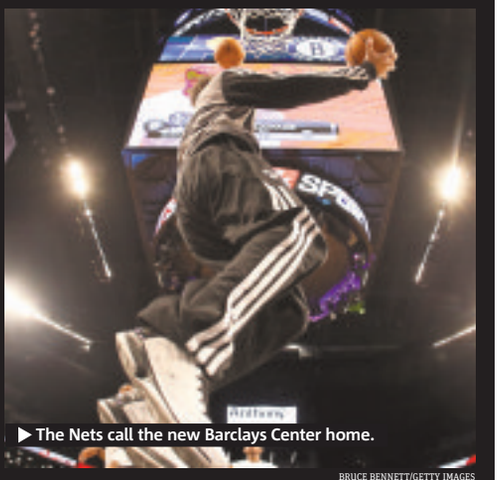
"It's old, it hasn't had very many renovations," Scher said. "Nice people, I want to stress that, but I think that's the venue that's going to get hurt more than anywhere else."

Jessie Greenspan and Connor Adams Sheets

New York City: A tale of two arenas

▶ The New York Knicks listen to the national anthem at Madison Square Garden.

NATHANIEL S. BUTLER/NBAE VIA GETTY IMAGES



▶ The Nets call the new Barclays Center home.

BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Madison Square Garden

- **Opened**: 1964
- **Capacity**: 18,200 people
- **Home Teams**: Knicks, Rangers
- **Unofficial Mascot**: Spike Lee
- **Location**: Midtown Manhattan
- **Catchphrase**: "World's Most Famous Arena"
- **Iconic Moment**: 1971's Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier bout
- **Upcoming events**: Passion Pit, Feb. 9; Westminster Kennel Dog Show, Feb. 11-12; Maroon 5, Feb. 16; Harlem Globetrotters Feb. 18.

Barclays Center

- **Opened**: 2012
- **Capacity**: 18,103
- **Home Teams**: Nets, Islanders starting in 2015
- **Unofficial Mascot**: Jay-Z
- **Location**: Downtown Brooklyn
- **Catchphrase**: "Bridges Will Be Crossed"
- **Iconic Moment**: Eight Jay-Z concerts to open the arena in September and October 2012
- **UPCOMING EVENTS**: Mumford & Sons, Feb. 6 and 12; Danny Garcia v. Zab Judah boxing match, Feb. 9; Marc Anthony, Feb. 15-16; Itzhak Perlman and Yitzchak Meir Helfgot, Feb. 28.

19M

Boland suspects the New York metropolitan area's population is more than big enough to sustain two arenas.

In the news

Man found dead in Queens basement

Jahim Campbell,24, was found dead in a Queens basement Saturday evening. Police responded to a 911 call of a man bleeding, and arrived to find Campbell shot in the head. Campbell was the city's first murder since Jan. 16, when a man and his niece were found shot dead in a car in the Bronx. In a New York Times article, Police Commissioner Ray Kelly credited the relative calm to the recent cold weather. METRO/DT

In the news

Police recover weapons cache from Bronx apt.

A Bronx man was arrested Saturday after cops discovered a weapons cache inside his bedroom. Having consented to being searched, Enrique Santiago, 49, stood by as police pulled out 500 rounds of ammunition, a .45-caliber Colt semi-automatic handgun and three assault rifles, including two with bayonets. Santiago resides on St. Pauls Place near 3rd Avenue. METRO/JG

News in brief

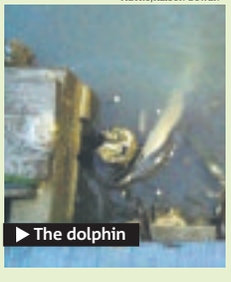
Trapped dolphin perishes in the Gowanus Canal

The dolphin that became trapped in the Gowanus Canal on Friday, Jan. 25, died late that afternoon.

As snow started to fall in the early evening, about two dozen people stood on the Union Street bridge to look down at the dolphin.

The dolphin seemed to be stuck, moving up and down on the side of the canal, surrounded by a Styrofoam cup, milk jug and a phone book.

METRO/ALISON BOWEN



▶ The dolphin

Brian Egan walked from his home in Park Slope after hearing about the incident.

"Part of it is the novelty of being outside in a snowstorm, watching a dolphin in the canal," he said, adding that he felt bad for the struggling animal.

The Gowanus Canal is so polluted that it was designated as a Superfund site, and federal officials themselves have advised never to swim in the canal, which hosts PCBs and metals like mercury. This week, the Independent Budget Office estimated that cleaning it up could cost as much as $504 million for the city. METRO/AB

SI woman missing in Turkey

A Staten Island mother of two has reportedly disappeared while on vacation in Turkey, according to the Daily News.

Sarai Sierra, 33, had never left the United States before flying to Turkey on Jan. 7, the Daily News reported. She was supposed to return home last Tuesday but never arrived. Her passport, camera and other items were apparently recovered from her hotel room in Istanbu.

Sierra's brother and husband said that they were planning a trip to search for her. METRO/JG

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[1] Reference - Epidural steroid injections procedures. Medscape reference retreived July 26th 2011. [2] Results may vary. Prior results cannot guarantee future outcomes. Copyright © 2012 NY Wellness Solutions, Inc.

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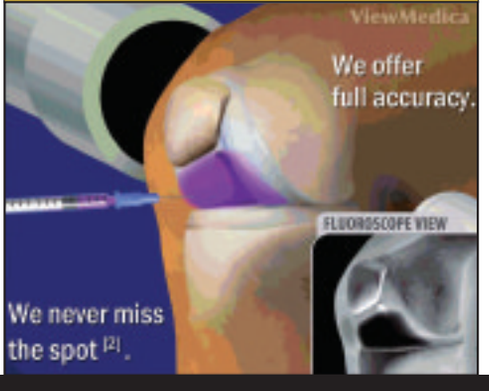

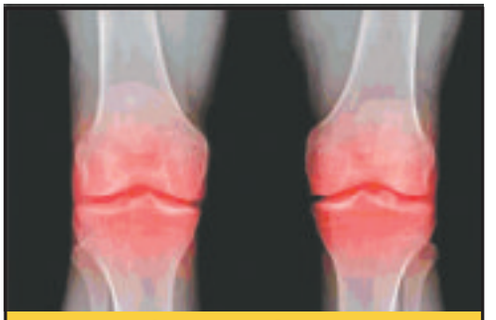

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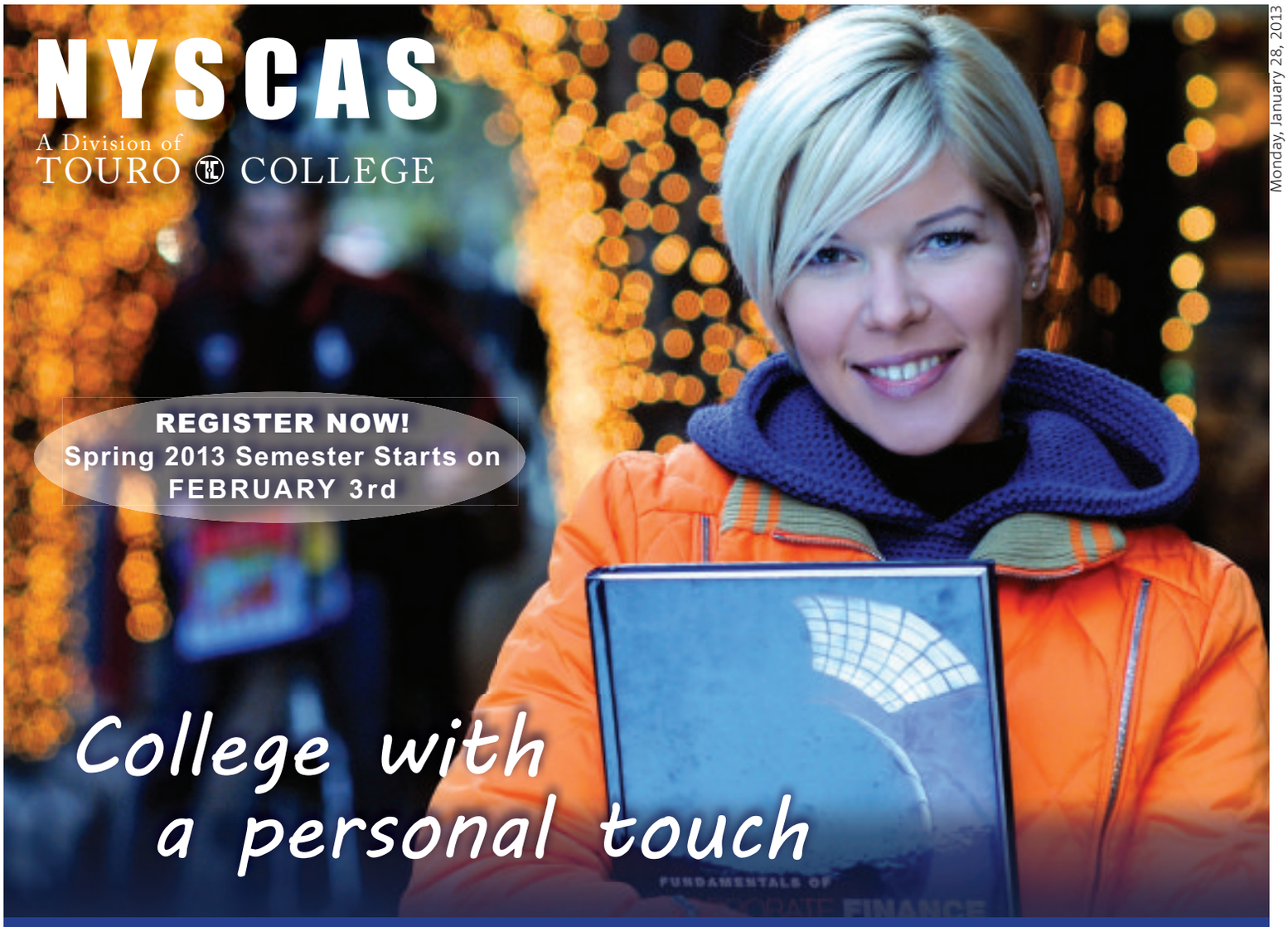

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De Blasio begins his mayoral bid

Public Advocate Bill de Blasio officially announced his candidacy for mayor of New York City yesterday in front of his home in Park Slope, Brooklyn, with his wife Chirlane and his son Dante at his side.

De Blasio took aim at current three-term mayor Michael Bloomberg, decrying that "after nearly 12 years of Mayor Bloomberg's policies, our city isn't living up to its potential," and accusing the mayor of "cater[ing] to the interests of the elite."

He made more veiled jabs at his competition, insinuating that they are either content to perpetuate a Bloombergian New York with "just a few tweaks," or fair-weather candidates who "practice a politics of the moment."

For his part, de Blasio pledged to increase business opportunities in all five boroughs, rather than solely in Manhattan, expand early-education and after-school programs, and tackle the NYPD's stop-and-frisk policy.

De Blasio will be campaigning in all five boroughs today.

▶ Public Advocate Bill de Blasio and his wife Chirlane share a private moment after he announces that he's running for mayor.

NEW YORKERS FOR BILL DE BLASIO

Danielle Tcholakian
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Public Advocate Bill de Blasio

De Blasio recently used his position as public advocate to pressure the city's pension funds to divest from holdings in gun manufacturing companies. Last week, New York City Employees' Retirement System, the fund for which he serves as a trustee, passed a unanimous resolution to "reconsider its investments in the makers of assault weapons," including the "option" of divestment, according to the Public Advocate's Office.

Winter. Sports

▶ A skier catches some air at Winter Jam in Central Park.

GETTY IMAGES

Central Park slopes: Manhattan goes skiing

A skier hits a jump at Winter Jam in Central Park on Jan. 26. The annual winter event brings skiing and snowboarding to the city. METRO

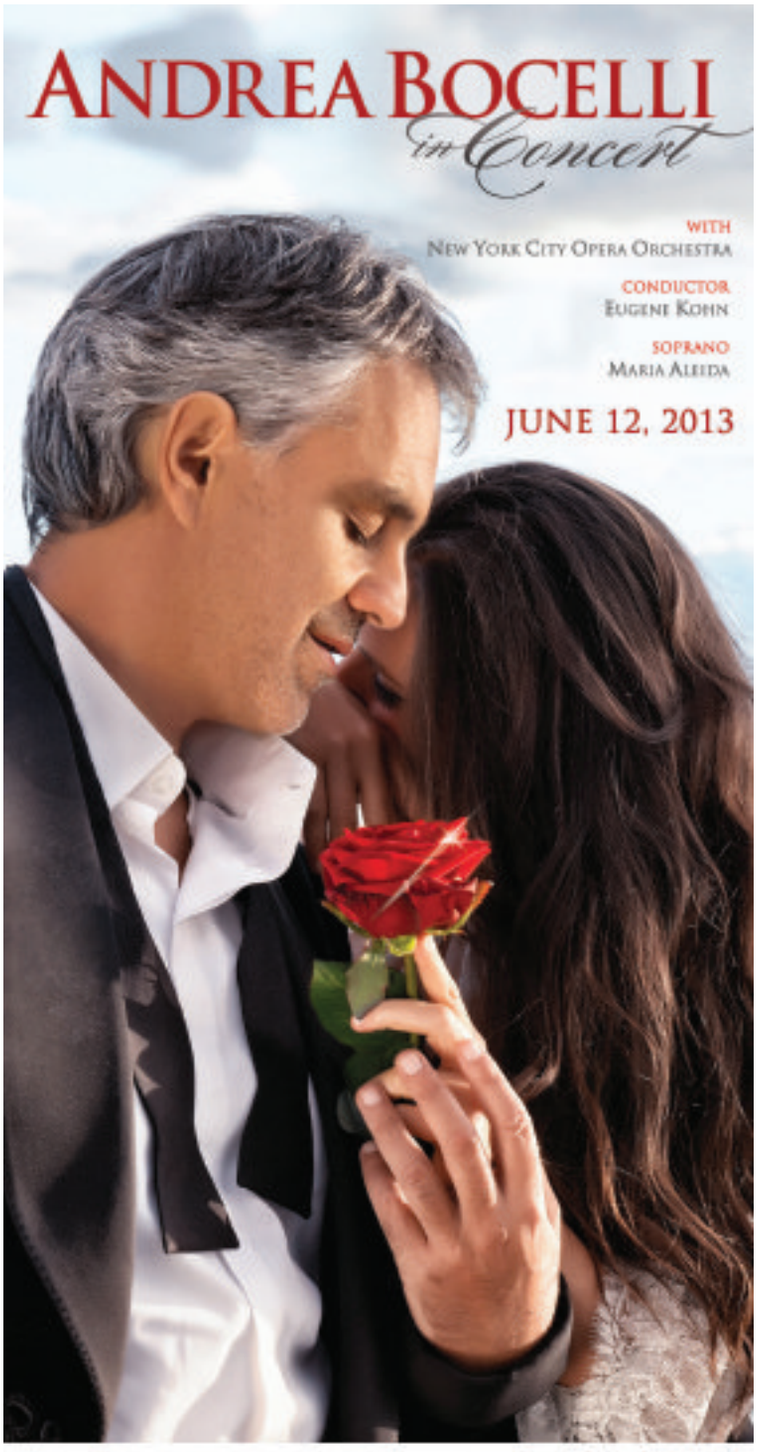
In the news

Nurses balk at dress code

North Shore LIJ Health System is imposing a white-scrubs dress code for the 10,000 nurses at its 15 hospitals, including Lenox Hill, and Forest Hills, Crains reports. Nurses are complaining the color is impractical and that stains will stand out more than on the purple scrubs nurses prefer. A hospital spokesperson said the uniform color is necessary to help visitors distinguish nurses from other personnel. METRO/DT

GETTY IMAGES

▶ A nurse checks vital stats.



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News in brief

State senators, advocates rally for a better G

State Senators Daniel Squadron and Martin Dilan joined advocacy group Riders Alliance on Saturday to call on the MTA to conduct a full line review of the G train.

Squadron has coordinated such reviews with the MTA for the F and L lines, resulting in better service and new cars.

METRO/DT

Woman dies in Brooklyn fire

A Saturday night fire at a Williamsburg public housing building claimed the life of a Nelly Bermudez, 78.

After firefighters extinguished the blaze, they found her in her living room with severe burns. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

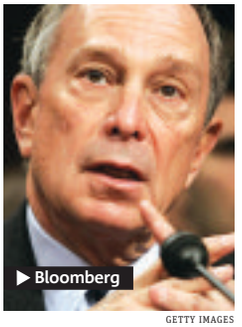
METRO/JG

Bloomberg gives $350 million to Johns Hopkins

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg is giving $350 million of his multibillion-dollar fortune to his alma mater, Johns Hopkins University, in a gift that will bring his lifetime donations to the institution to more than $1 billion, the school said.

Bloomberg's giving to the university over the years makes him its largest-ever philanthropic benefactor, the school said.

Of the new gift, $250 million will go toward the university's work to tackle global challenges such as the preserving of water resources, while the other $100 million will provide financial aid to undergraduate students, the school said.



▶ Bloomberg

GETTY IMAGES

$5

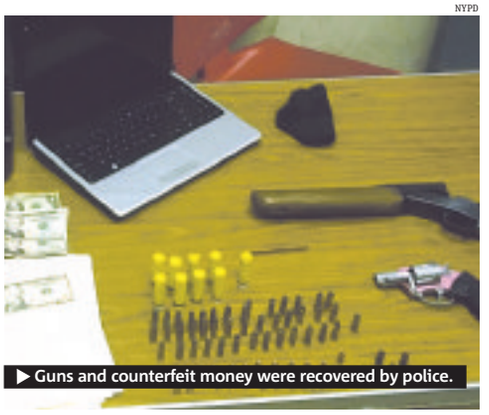
Mayor Michael Bloomberg's first ever monetary gift to alma mater Johns Hopkins University in 1965.

When he was an undergraduate at the Baltimore university, Bloomberg paid for his tuition by taking loans and working as a parking lot attendant. His first Johns Hopkins gift was $5 in 1965, a year after he received his bachelor's degree in engineering.

"Hopkins University has been an important part of my life since I first set foot on campus more than five decades ago," Bloomberg said in a statement. "Each dollar I have given has been well-spent improving the institution and, just as importantly, making its education available to students who might otherwise not be able to afford it." REUTERS

Police break up counterfeiting ring

NYPD



▶ Guns and counterfeit money were recovered by police.

A Bronx teen was arrested Friday, Jan. 25, after police found firearms and counterfeit money inside his bedroom.

Leopold Hines, 18, had stored a .38-caliber revolver, a shotgun and ammunition in a duffel bag, according to police, who received permission from Hines' mother to search his closet.

Hines also allegedly had $1,491 in fake cash, plus paper, a laptop and a printer capable of running off more counterfeit bills.

Joseph Arzu, 18, and Harvey Nelson, 19 — who were in Hines' Third Avenue apartment near 170th Street at the time — were likewise arrested.

METRO/JG

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Report: Obama says rural voices need to be heard in gun debate

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Mourners gather at the entrance of the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

President Barack Obama urged gun control advocates to listen to views of rural Americans who use guns for hunting and said bridging a cultural divide in attitudes to gun ownership will be critical to his administration's push to curb gun violence.

"If you grew up and your dad gave you a hunting rifle when you were 10, and you went out and spent the day with him and your uncles, and that became part of your family's traditions, you can see why you'd be pretty protective of that," Obama said in an interview with The New Republic published yesterday on its website.

Obama is making gun control a top priority for his second term after 20 children and six adults were killed in December at a school in Connecticut.

Obama spoke with The New Republic on Jan. 16, the same day he announced he would put the full weight of his office behind urging Congress to approve an assault weapons ban and background checks for all gun buyers.

"Part of being able to move this forward is understanding the reality of guns in urban areas are very different from the realities of guns in rural areas," Obama said.

Quoted

"Part of being able to move this forward is understanding the reality of guns in urban areas are very different from the realities of guns in rural areas." OBAMA

"So it's trying to bridge those gaps that I think is going to be part of the biggest task over the next several months. And that means that advocates of gun control have to do a little more listening than they do sometimes," he said. REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Sen. Dianne Feinstein speaks next to a display of assault weapons Jan. 24, 2013, during a news conference on Capitol Hill.

Assault weapons ban 'hardest' to pass, Sen. Feinstein says

A proposed ban on sales of assault weapons would likely be an "uphill fight" and may not be part of gun legislation that reaches the floor of the Senate, Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California said.

"This has never been easy," Feinstein said on CNN's "State of the Union" yesterday. "This is the hardest of the hard."

A ban on the military-style weapons is among the legislative goals President Barack Obama outlined in his recommendations to Congress on curbing gun violence after the Dec. 14 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. Vice President Joe Biden said Jan. 25 that it will take "persuasion and information" to garner the necessary support in Congress to enact the White House package. BLOOMBERG

158

The new legislation prohibits the sale or transfer of 158 of the most commonly owned military-style assault weapons.

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Senate Dems rework US immigration law

Senate Democrats plan to put forward an immigration proposal this week, with President Barack Obama telling Hispanic lawmakers that he intends to push legislation as quickly as possible.

Obama this week will begin a public campaign to build support for an immigration package that will include a pathway to citizenship for the country's 11 million undocumented immigrants. A bipartisan group of six senators also plans to release a detailed framework for a bill as soon as the end of this week, Senate aides said.

The president "made it very clear that this is his No. 1 legislative priority," Democratic Representative Xavier Becerra of California said after meeting last week with Obama at the White House. "In every sense of the word, he is in the starting gate." **BLOOMBERG**

RONALDO SCHEMIDT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A Mexican member of migrants organizations holds a sign during a protest.

Four points

Senate aides said the proposal will cover four major areas:

- Border enforcement
- Managing the future flow of immigrants
- Workplace verification standards
- Pathway for citizenship for undocumented immigrants

71%

Of Hispanic voters cast a ballot for Obama during the presidential election

11M

There are 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States.

News in brief

Hackers claim attack on Justice Department site

Hackers sympathetic to the late computer prodigy Aaron Swartz claimed on Saturday to have infiltrated the website of the U.S. Justice Department's Sentencing Commission and said they planned to release government data.

The Sentencing Commission site, www.ussc.gov, was shut down early Saturday.

Identifying themselves as Anonymous, a loosely organized group of

Swartz

unknown provenance associated with a range of recent online actions, the hackers voiced outrage over Swartz's suicide on Jan. 11.

In a video posted online, the hackers criticized the government's prosecution of Swartz, who had been facing trial on charges that he used the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's computer networks to steal more than 4 million articles from JSTOR, an online archive and journal distribution service.

Swartz had faced a maximum sentence of 31 years in prison and fines of up to $1 million.

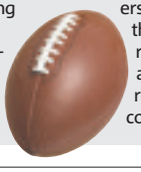
The FBI is investigating the attack, according to Richard McFeely, of the bureau's Criminal, Cyber, Response and Services Branch. "We were aware as soon as it happened and are handling it as a criminal investigation," McFeely said. **REUTERS**

News in brief

Obama: Football should become less violent

President Barack Obama said he loves football but thinks the sport should "probably change gradually" so that there are fewer concussions, particularly at the college level.

"I'm a big football fan. But I have to tell you, if I had a son I'd have to think long and hard before I let him play football," Obama said in a wide-ranging interview with The New Republic magazine published early Sunday on its website.



Football is America's most popular televised sport, an industry worth $9 billion a year.

But in recent years, suicides by brain-injured players and lawsuits from their families have raised concerns about the impact of repeated concussions. **REUTERS**

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Nightclub fire kills at least 232 in Brazil

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Firefighters try to put out a fire at a nightclub in Santa Maria, in southern Brazil.

▶ Television footage showed people sobbing outside the club while shirtless firefighters used sledgehammers and axes to knock down an exterior wall to open up an exit.

A fire in a nightclub killed at least 232 people in southern Brazil yesterday when a band's pyrotechnics show set the building ablaze and fleeing partygoers stampeded toward blocked and overcrowded exits in the ensuing panic, officials said.

The blaze in the university town of Santa Maria was started by a band member or someone from its production team igniting a flare, which then set fire to the ceiling, said Luiza Sousa, a civil police official. The fire spread "in seconds," she said.

Local fire officials said at least one exit was locked and that bouncers, who at first thought those fleeing were trying to skip out on bar tabs, initially blocked patrons from leaving. The security staff relented only when they saw flames engulfing the ceiling.

The vast majority of the victims, most of them university students, died from asphyxiation, officials said. Others were crushed in the stampede.

"We ran into a barrier of the dead at the building's exit," Colonel Guido Pedroso de Melo, commander of the Santa Maria fire squad, said of the scene firefighters found on arrival. "We had to clear a path to get to the rest of those that were inside."

232 The death tally was lowered slightly, with police saying at midafternoon that 232 people had been killed, down from an initial figure of 245.

An estimated 500 people were in the Boate Kiss nightclub when the fire broke out at around 2:30 a.m., police said. Witnesses said the club, which has a 2,000-person capacity, was always busy on weekends but wasn't any more crowded than usual.

When the fire began, many revelers were unable to find their way out amid the chaos, confusing restroom doors for exits and finding resistance from bouncers when they found an exit door. Once security guards realized the building was on fire, they tried in vain to control the blaze with a fire extinguisher, according to a televised interview with one of the guards, Rodrigo Moura. He said patrons were getting trampled as they rushed for the doors, describing it as "a horror film." **REUTERS**

Timeline

The deadliest fires this century at entertainment venues include:

- **March 29, 2000** Paradise video parlor, an illegal porn cinema, at Jiaozuo in China's Henan province. 74 dead.
- **December 25, 2000** Mall in Luoyang, China; fire engulfs building workers and Christmas party at discotheque. 309 dead.
- **December 1, 2002** La Coajira nightclub, Caracas. 50 dead.
- **February 20, 2003** Station nightclub, West Warwick, Rhode Island; fireworks during heavy-metal concert. 100 dead.
- **December 30, 2004** Republica Cromagnon nightclub, Buenos Aires; flare for New Year's party hits foam ceiling. 192 dead.
- **January 1, 2009** Santika nightclub, Bangkok; New Year's party. 61 dead.
- **December 5, 2009** Lame Horse nightclub, Perm, Russia; indoor fireworks ignite wicker ceiling. At least 155 dead.

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In the news

French-led forces clear Timbuktu

Residents of Mali's northern town of Gao, captured from sharia-observing Islamist rebels by French and Malian troops, danced in the streets to drums and music yesterday as the French-led offensive also drove the rebels from Timbuktu.

The gains made at Gao and Timbuktu by the French and Malian troops capped a two-week whirlwind intervention by France in its former Sahel colony, which has driven al Qaeda-allied militant fighters northward into the desert and mountains.

In Gao, the largest town in the north where the Islamist insurgents had banned music, cut off the hands of thieves and ordered women to wear veils, thousands cheered the liberating troops.

French special forces backed by Rafale fighter jets and Tiger helicopters had helped capture the town early Saturday. **REUTERS**

2,500 French troops sent to Mali after its government asked Paris for help

Third bomb attack in 24 hours kills eight Afghan police

A roadside bomb killed eight policemen in Afghanistan's volatile southern province of Kandahar, police said yesterday, the third deadly attack by insurgents against police in 24 hours.

Twenty police have been killed across Afghanistan since midday Saturday, a level of violence that underlines concern over how the 350,000-strong Afghan security forces will manage once most NATO-led troops withdraw by the end of next year. **REUTERS**

Egypt's leader declares emergency after clashes

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Egyptian protesters run away from tear gas canisters fired by riot policemen during clashes near Cairo's Tahrir Square yesterday.

Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi declared a monthlong state of emergency in three cities along the Suez Canal where dozens of people have been killed over the past four days in protests his allies say are designed to overthrow him.

Seven people were shot dead and hundreds were injured in Port Said on Sunday during the funerals of 33 people killed there when locals angered by a court decision went on the rampage as anti-government protests spread around the country.

A total of 49 people have been killed since Thursday and Mursi's opponents, who accuse his Islamist Muslim Brotherhood of betraying the revolution that ousted ruler Hosni Mubarak, have called for more demonstrations today.

"Down, down Mursi, down down the regime that killed and tortured us!" people in Port Said chanted as the coffins of those killed Saturday were carried through the streets.

Mursi, who was elected in June, is trying to fix a beleaguered economy and cool tempers before a parliamentary poll in the next few months that is supposed to cement Egypt's transition to democracy. Eruptions of violence have weighed heavily on the Egyptian pound.

In a televised address, he said a nightly curfew would be introduced in Port Said, Ismailia and Suez, starting today. **REUTERS**

The protest

Several hundred people protested in Ismailia, Suez and Port Said after the announcement, in which Mursi also called for a dialogue with top politicians.

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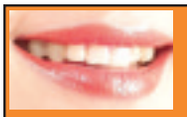

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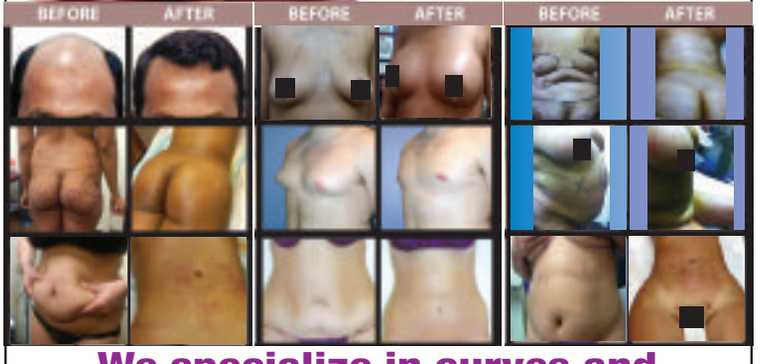

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Women getting ahead in the game

The video game industry is no longer a boys' club Young female engineering grads are taking their place beside industry pioneers

When video game developer Brenda Brathwaite Romero started her career in the 1980s, she could count the number of female developers in the industry on one hand.

Today, many "Women in Games" round tables she attends are filled to capacity with new faces. The 46-year-old jokes that these days one can even encounter long lines for the ladies' room at the Game Developers Conference, one of the industry's largest gatherings.

"Over the years, greatly helped by the social and mobile boom, there have been many, many women coming into game development," Brathwaite Romero says.

Not there yet

Although women have made progress in the field, it's still not quite a level playing field.

- There is a 27 percent gap in average incomes, with women making $68,062 versus men at $86,418, according to Game Developer Magazine's 2011 annual salary survey.
- Women in the game industry are underrepresented in software engineering and upper management, reflecting a similar trend in the broader technology sector, industry executives say.

Gaming still conjures up images of young men glued to screens for hours on end, fueled by energy drinks and waging online battles in games like "Call of Duty" and "Starcraft."

But the advent of smartphones and tablets and the burgeoning world of social media has drawn in a whole new world of gamers. Individuals who had never been tempted to plunk down hundreds of dollars to buy a gaming console are finding themselves enticed by a whole new genre of games.

"Mobile is founded on this idea of inclusion. Everyone wants to play," says game content designer Elizabeth Sampat, who works at Storm8, a social game company.

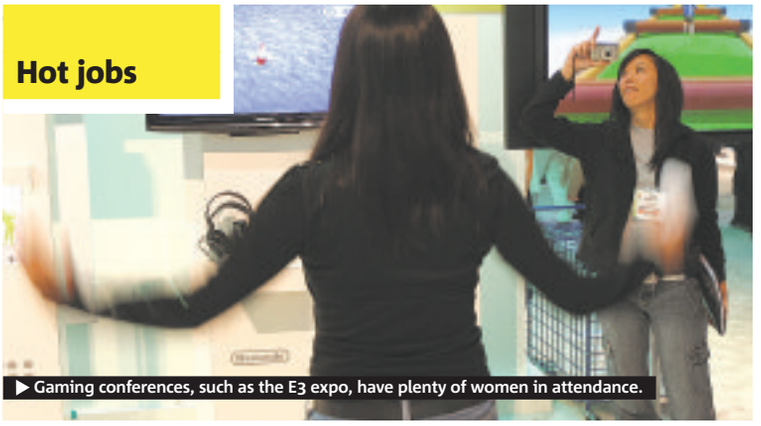
More than half of U.S. social and mobile gamers are women, according to research firm EEDAR. Meanwhile just 30 percent of players of violent console games like Microsoft's "Halo 4" are female.

Brathwaite Romero has worked on projects like "Playboy: The Mansion," but says her colleagues were nothing but professional.

"I've fortunately not experienced the level of misogyny that I've heard other people do," she says.

"Some of the debauchery in the early days of the industry — like meetings at strip clubs, having strippers at your party — that sort of stuff has gone way down from where it used to be." REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES



Hot jobs

▶ Gaming conferences, such as the E3 expo, have plenty of women in attendance.

From gamer to designer

Erin McCarty, 24, grew up a gamer. She went to engineering school at Carnegie Mellon University with a goal of working in the video game industry.

Today she's the only female engineer in a seven-member team crafting multiplayer-shooter game "Realm of the Mad God" at the game company Kabam that targets male gamers.

McCarty considers herself just another coder at Kabam, where women are just a fifth of the payroll.

"I'm around guys a lot. They're people that I'm happy to work with," she says.

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What public universities can learn from the 12th century

Richard DeMillo wants to lift the veil on the inner workings of public universities. The former Hewlett-Packard executive has split his career between university administration and corporate hierarchy. Over the years, he's noticed a few things about how these organizations tend to function.

His latest book, "Abelard to Apple: The Fate of American Colleges and Universities," charts the legacy of modern higher education, from 12th century scholar Peter Abelard to the current proliferation of online courses. But this is no history lecture. DeMillo's book challenges public universities to either adjust their models or be left behind.

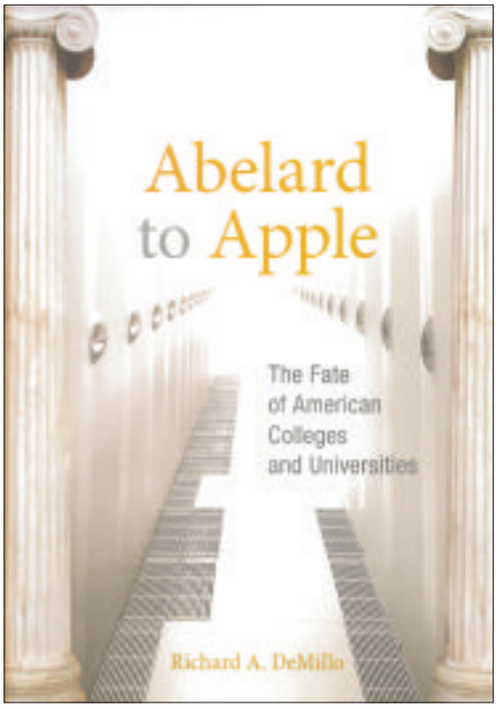
About

Richard DeMillo is the director of Georgia Tech University's Center for 21st Century Universities, a research center founded in 2011. C21U's goal is to better understand the forces of technology in higher education and to develop strategies for Georgia Tech's future.

"Since medieval times, the natural tendency of the university is to think more about their own value systems and professors' needs than the needs of society," says DeMillo, from his office at Georgia Tech. "I think it's time to start thinking about what a university offers to the public. There's a feeling among leaders that they have to compete with schools above them in rankings. That means they have to become research institutions and spend lots of money on buildings. But is that serving the student?"

DeMillo senses that the changing economic landscape is forcing universities to do some soul-searching.

"There is an elite band of universities that can afford to set their own agendas. And there's some startup higher education organizations that are experimenters," he says. "But in the middle you have some 3,000 institutions that don't have international brands or big endowments, and many are clinging to an outdated model where they hold all the cards. But now you can get the equivalent course material for free online, so it's time to rethink why they can ask a family to pony up so much money."



Quoted

"Universities go on spending sprees to build fancy dormitories and climbing walls, because it's the kind of bling that attracts students. But all of that spending is directed away from the classroom — away from actual learning. I think students and parents are starting to pick up on that."
RICHARD DEMILLO

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4 Reasons to extend your degree

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Extra major: Doing a double major can make you more appealing on the job market. If you like languages, you may be able to combine it with business studies for a degree tailored to international business. If you like music, history or sociology, combining these with an education degree opens doors to be a music or social studies teacher.

Double majors show employers that you are driven and motivated. And pragmatic combinations position you well for competitive fields.

Internships and volunteering: Many of us finish our degrees with the classic problem: lots of education but no experience.

Internships and volunteering are becoming an increasingly valuable addition to many undergraduate degrees. Some offer you the opportunity to earn while you learn, but each helps build contacts and a network in your chosen career. Or you can use the time to give a career option you may be interested in a trial run.

Personal reasons: The transition to college can be difficult, especially for students studying far from home. It's OK to slow down. Many of us also have to earn an income while going to school and extending your degree can help make it happen.

It's not always easy: Will you be able to pay for that extra semester? Do you want added student loans? Sometimes the answer is yes, but before making any decision, discuss your goals and options with a counselor or your department advisor.

Travel

Taking time to travel is one of the most valuable experiences in life. Experiences abroad show employers you are adaptable, pro-active and confident.

But if you continue to take courses while living abroad, they may not all transfer back to your home institution. Always plan foreign study with an academic advisor.

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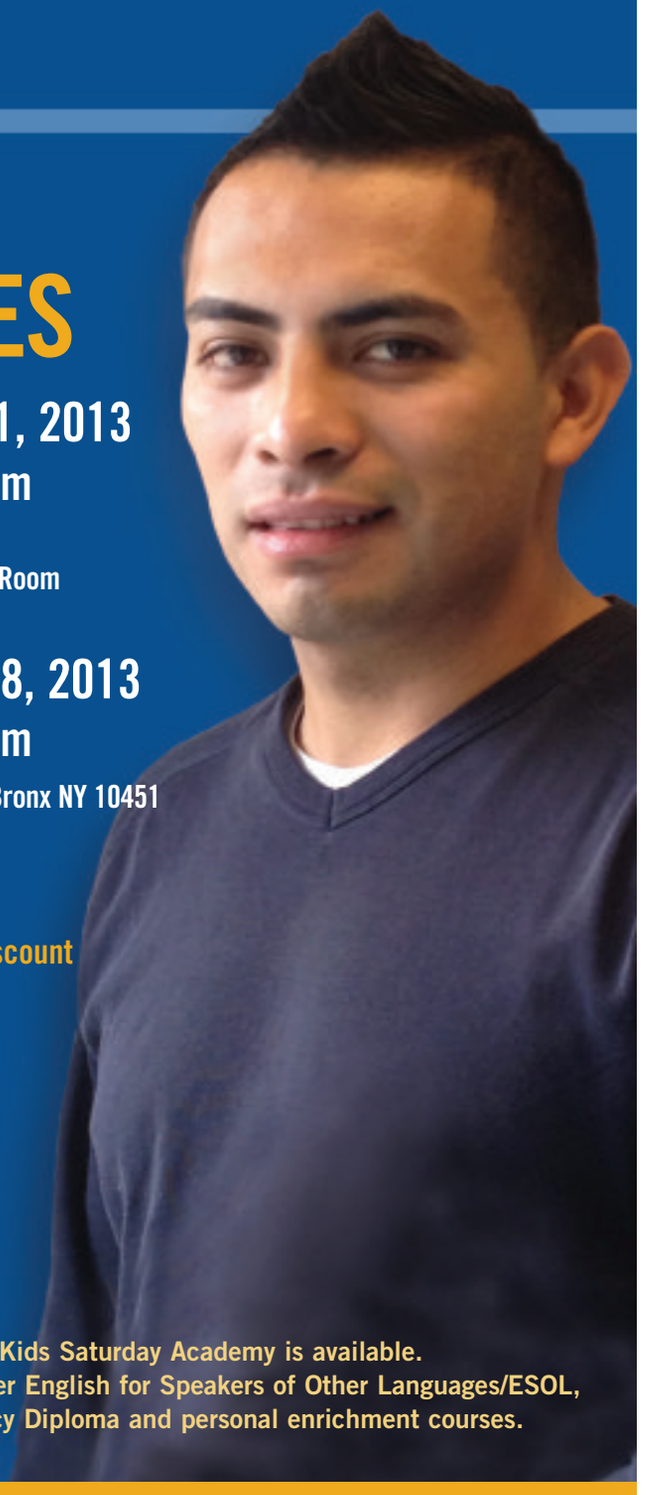

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Dorothy Robinson's take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Eva Longoria is feeling very popular, Chris Colfer is writing, Hugh Hefner is keeping busy and Olivia Wilde is not a fan of British food.

@EvaLongoria
OMG 5 million followers! When did that happen?! Thx tweeples! I love u!

@chriscolfer
Just finished a chapter in TLOS2 where the twins meet Cinderella's Stepmother. It's very Grey Gardens meets Whatever Happened To Baby Jane.

@hughhefner
I hope everyone is enjoying the weekend. I will be working on my scrapbook this afternoon.

@oliviawilde
Kate Moss says "nothing tastes as good as skinny feels"? Huh. I'm pretty sure that's because you live in England, dude.

Wilde

Is this the set list for Beyonce's Super Bowl XLVII halftime show?

Destiny's Child, circa 2001. Work those outfits, girls!

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Poor **Beyonce** — can she keep anything under wraps? First her cover was blown about lip-syncing at the presidential inauguration by a member of the Marine Corp Band (loose lips sink ships — and egos) and now someone has leaked her possible set list for her Super Bowl XLVII halftime show.

According to Us Weekly, the set will start out with just Beyonce singing her solo hit, "Crazy in Love" and then she'll be joined onstage with her Destiny's Child mates **Kelly Rowland** and **Michelle Williams** for "Bills, Bills, Bills" and "Survivor"; they'll then wrap up the performance with their new single, "Nuclear."

The only way this reunion will be complete is if **Tina Knowles** comes back on board with her matchy-matchy, cheap-o costumes she used to design for the girls. Make it happen, universe!

Liberty Ross files for divorce

Rupert Sanders, the infamous "Snow White and the Huntsman" director, is now free to boink whatever young actress he wants (not that this stopped him before): His wife **Liberty Ross** has officially filed for divorce after Sanders' highly publicized affair with his "Huntsman" star, **Kristen Stewart.**

"This was a long time coming," one source says to Us Weekly, explaining that Sanders "did want to try to repair the relationship and didn't want a divorce." But according to another source, Ross found the betrayal impossible to get past. "They gave it a shot for the kids, [but] she was just so angry," the source says. "She's the kind of person who wouldn't really ever get over it." The couple has two children, daughter **Skyla**, 7, and son **Tennyson**, 5, who probably aren't the biggest "Twilight" fans at the moment.

Ross

Correction

In Friday's Word, I made a reference about **Dame Edna** being from England when, in fact, she is from Australia, as several readers noted. I will never mix up the provenance of my drag queens ever again. (**RuPaul** is from Canada, right?)

Talking points

Jennifer Lawrence has pneumonia

The pressures of awards season are taking their toll on "Silver Linings Playbook" star **Jennifer Lawrence**, who is suffering from pneumonia, according to co-star **Jacki Weaver**. The Golden Globe winner also earned a trophy this weekend from Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Awards, but Weaver was there in her place at the L.A. ceremony. "I'm going to receive this on her behalf," Weaver said. "Poor Jen is really sick. She really is sick. She has pneumonia."

Reynolds and his mustache are in the hospital

Burt Reynolds has been hospitalized with the flu and is being treated in a Florida intensive care unit, a rep for the 76-year-old actor confirms to E! News. "He is doing better. They are taking care of him and his mustache," his rep jokes. "His fever is down and we believe he should be taken out of ICU very soon."

Reynolds

'American Pie' star breaks off engagement

Seann William Scott is back on the market, as his engagement to Victoria's Secret model **Lindsay Frimodt** is officially off, his rep confirms to Us Weekly. "They remain friends. It was a very amicable split," his rep says. The "American Pie" star had first announced the engagement last March while promoting the reunion sequel "American Reunion," explaining that the pair had met on a beach vacation a year ago. "I don't how I got a girl like my fiancee," Scott told the magazine at the time. "She hadn't seen 'American Pie.' Thank God. Otherwise, I probably wouldn't be engaged."

Scott

ALL PHOTOS JASON KEMPIN/GETTY IMAGES

On the red carpet at the Producers Guild Awards

1: Amanda Seyfried brought the sass in a tangerine frock.

2: The beautiful **Jessica Alba** continues to pop up during awards season — but we're not entirely sure why, considering that some of her recent projects include "Spy Kids 4," "Little Fockers" and — gulp — "Valentine's Day."

3: Ben Affleck's "Argo" took home top honors at Saturday's show, held in Beverly Hills, Calif. Joke's on you, Oscar committee!

4: Affleck's co-star in "Argo," **Bryan Cranston**, rocked his Walter White look at the ceremony. Six months until the return of "Breaking Bad"!

5: Friends in high places! **Nicole Kidman** towered over fellow Aussie **Naomi Watts** on the red carpet.

6: Christian Grey — er, **Matt Bomer** — was looking fine, as usual.

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It's Peter Farrelly vs. the Web for 'Movie 43'

The famed director and producer will admit that there's some great humor online, but says his new film can best sites like Funny or Die How A-list actors reacted to some blue material

RELATIVITY MEDIA

Peter Farrelly coaches Stephen Merchant and Halle Berry on the set of "Movie 43," which is in theaters now.

Before director Peter Farrelly will get on with our interview, he needs to make sure he's talking to someone from a real publication. "Metro News sounds like something out of 'Superman,'" Farrelly says. "'I work for the Metro News!'" After assuring him that we are in fact very real, it's time to talk about the raunchy comedy anthology "Movie 43," a project that's also very real, even if Farrelly is working without his brother Bobby, his co-director on such career-definers as "Dumb and Dumber" and "There's Something About Mary."

You've got some big stars in this, some with Oscars. How did you convince them to take part?

Well, when we got Kate [Winslet] and Hugh [Jackman], Charlie Wessler, the producer, told them that the Coen Brothers were going to direct them, and then I showed up and said that they'd had to cancel. [Laughs] I was nervous showing up with Kate Winslet and Halle Berry and Hugh Jackman. I thought when they got on the set they were going to blink and say, "You're kidding. I can't be doing this." Not only did they not, they embraced it like it was their first movie ever and they wanted to go for it.

How do you think approaching a project like this has changed since the advent of Funny or Die and the Internet in general?

The world's attention spans have diminished drastically in the last 10 years, so you can't just have a movie of shorts. What we had to do is have a wraparound story that explains what "Movie 43" is and keeps you wanting to know what's going to happen at the end. The difference between this, by the way, and a Funny or Die — and I love Funny or Die, it's fantastic — but they do have limitations. They can only go so far. There are rules and regulations to being on the Internet. And we don't have that. It's as hard an R-rated movie as they come.

How much do sites like Funny or Die work as far as finding new comedy talent?

That's where we got all our new talent, in fact. Charlie would scour Funny or Die and the entire Internet for funny pieces and then contact those guys or women and say, "Hey, that's hilarious. We're doing a movie of shorts, you want to write one?" Funny or Die and the Internet and all that has definitely advanced comedy, I will say that.

That's big of you to say, as a film comedy guy.

That's what I feel. I can't believe how good comedy on television is getting. You used to go three or four years without seeing a good comedy ... The bar has been raised. You've got to be funnier to get out there.

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

Q&A

How did you decide which of the segments to direct yourself?

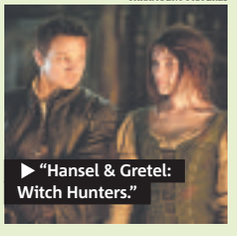
I just picked the best ones. [Laughs] Because I'm the producer. Um, no, I picked the ones that I thought were the funniest. And by the way, it's going to get about a 6 percent on the Rotten Tomatoes scale if we're lucky, just so you know. Because it's groundbreaking and odd and offensive and critics aren't going to know what do with it. But it plays like a rock concert. But it's not for everybody, and the people it's not for mainly will be the critics.

Box office

'Hansel & Gretel' opens at No. 1

A grown-up "Hansel & Gretel" grabbed the weekend box office title, pulling in $19 million in U.S. and Canadian ticket sales with its reinvention of the fairy tale characters as fierce bounty hunters.

PARAMOUNT PICTURES



"Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters."

"Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters" knocked last weekend's winner, low-budget horror flick "Mama," into second place. "Mama" earned $12.8 million from Friday through Sunday, according to studio estimates, followed by "Silver Linings Playbook," with $10 million.

CIA drama "Zero Dark Thirty" came in fourth, with $9.8 million.

Jeremy Renner and Gemma Arterton star in "Hansel & Gretel" as crossbow-wielding adult siblings who travel the world taking out evil witches. MGM and Viacom Inc.'s Paramount Pictures produced the action comedy for about $50 million. Paramount had predicted opening weekend sales in the high-teens or low $20 million range.

Don Harris, Paramount's president of distribution, said the film performed well despite the very cold temperatures and snow that hit the eastern United States.

"It looks like we are on or exceeding our numbers, but we did get dinged with the weather on Friday," he said in an interview. **REUTERS**

▶ From left: Dan Domingues, Patch Darrah and Christopher Jackson star in Atlantic Theater Company's production of "The Jammer."

KEVIN THOMAS GARCIA

Skating in circles

▶ 'The Jammer' is an oversimplified examination of love from the roller derby rink ▶ Only a few of the play's performances seem genuine

Two-dimensional characters would seem appropriate to a cartoonish comedy like Rolin Jones's roller derby-themed "The Jammer," off-off-Broadway at the Atlantic Stage 2. And they abound, literally and figuratively, as life-size cardboard cutouts supplement the live actors onstage, with the latter struggling to bring depth to their flatly written roles.

Yet, even cartoons find their humor in some sort of commentary on the human experience, however exaggerated or oversimplified. "The Jammer" never ventures beyond its broadly sketched comic-book world.

We can see that naive, religious Jack (Patch Darragh) really loves roller derby, but his love for his girlfriend Aurora, who is lost but not forgotten when he follows his dream of glory in the rink, is a matter of faith. It's something we're told but never shown. His enigmatic confessor, Father Kosciusko (Todd Weeks), sometimes pontificating, sometimes down to earth, never seems genuine. Jack's loutish teammates are stereotypes, as is oily Bert Fineberg (Greg Stuhr), a television announcer stuck with a recurring, tired joke about his speechless cardboard sidekick's silence.

The one glorious exception to the play's malaise is Jeanine Serralles as slutty Lindy, who seduces Jack. Recently out of a mental hospital and prone to violence if she doesn't take her pills, she manages to be both over the top and firmly grounded at the same time. The other women (Keira Naughton and Kate Rigg in a series of roles) also hold their own. But "The Jammer" skates around and around, never going anywhere.

If you go

▶ **'The Jammer'**
Atlantic Stage 2
330 W. 16th St.
$45, 212-279-4200
www.ticketcentral.com

Michael Bracken
michael.bracken@metro.us

In the news

'Argo' wins producers award as Oscars loom

"Argo" continued its trophy-winning streak on Saturday, taking the top prize at the Producers Guild Awards in the latest boost to its chances at the Oscars. Guild picks regularly go on to win at the film industry's most prestigious event — for the past five years, the producers' choice of best-produced film has taken the Best Picture Oscar.

"Argo" won the prize against nine other films on Saturday, including "Lincoln," "Les Miserables" and Kathyrn Bigelow's Osama bin Laden thriller "Zero Dark Thirty." REUTERS

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mytelevision

The long road home for 'Antiques Roadshow'

'Antiques' back where it all started Metro goes behind the scenes with an on-set visit to the original reality appraisal drama

For the first time in 12 years, and the third time in its 17 years on the air, the traveling television treasure hunt known as "Antiques Roadshow" returned home to Boston last June, and the results will premiere tonight on PBS.

The nine-time Emmy-nominated show has since brought its crew and participating auctioneers on the road, inviting the curious to bring their questionable antiques for appraisal.

Predating more flashy cable shows like "Pawn Stars" and "Storage Wars," "Antiques Roadshow" is television's original reality appraisal drama. Family heirlooms and found treasures are assessed, mysteries are unveiled and sometimes fortunes are revealed. Just as often, hopeful hypotheses can be crushed and put to rest.

With 70 of the country's best auctioneers, specializing in 24 specific categories, the "Roadshow" provides each local audience with a chance for free appraisals by world-class auction houses. Audience members receive an estimated value and complimentary historical background of their object. The best finds and biggest disappointments are later brought to center stage to be recorded with the possibility of appearing on TV.

There is no admission fee, but audience members must apply for free tickets. In Boston, more than 27,000 applied to attend, while only 3,000 pairs of tickets were granted. Picked at random, each winning pair was given the chance to have four items assessed. People can bring just about anything, and many do. Even Boston Mayor Thomas Menino brought in one of his favorite paintings.

According to executive producer Marsha Bemko, Boston's best story regarded a woman who brought in a drawing of herself as a child drawn by Norman Rockwell. Meant to appear on a Kellogg's cereal box, the portrait came complete with a signed letter from the artist, a photo with the artist and the wooden painting chair that Rockwell sat on in his later years. Her total collection was estimated at $140,000.

NOLAN GAWRON/METRO

▶ "Antiques Roadshow" premieres tonight at 8 on PBS.

Spoiler alert

Later in last year's summer tour, an early Diego Rivera painting was estimated at up to $1 million in Corpus Christi, Texas, making it the second most valuable item ever appraised on the "Roadshow."

Nolan Gawron
letters@metro.us

TV watch list

'Dallas'

DRAMA. He may have passed last year, but Larry Hagman is as good as ever in his final stretch of episodes as J.R. — and by that, we mean his oilman is so deliciously bad. How will the loss of a legend be written into the rebooted soap opera's second season? Let's just say it doesn't sound like J.R. died of natural causes. **Season premiere, 9 p.m., TNT**

'RuPaul's Drag Race'

REALITY. Season 5 reveals a new cast of queens ready to work it. Among the celeb guest judges this cycle are Joan Van Ark, Juliette Lewis and La Toya Jackson. **Season premiere, 9 p.m., Logo**

'The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills'

REALITY. What happens in Vegas ... has become a reality TV ritual at this point. To amp up the drama, the women go pole dancing. **9 p.m., Bravo** AMBER RAY

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The question:

"I keep waking up in the middle of the night feeling anxious and overwhelmed. My to-do list is so long, I wonder how I'm going to get anything done. Help!"

STOCKBYTE

▶ Tossing and turning? Ask yourself if this is really the best time to approach your troubles. If not, schedule to do so the next day.

Your complaint is a common one, and there are many ways to approach it. One therapeutic technique is to ask yourself what continuing to worry will accomplish. If there are underlying concerns — for example, what will so-and-so think of me if I don't do such-and-such immediately — inquire if this is the best time to explore this issue. If it's not, make an appointment with yourself to think about it during the day when you're rested. During the day, you might also try breaking your to-do lists down into navigable chunks, prioritizing tasks and identifying what can be delegated or even discarded.

Another technique is to search for reminders of your own competencies in handling your affairs; it's worked for me. One evening last November, as I was feeling overwhelmed with managing my late father's affairs, I read an interview about the hero's journey with the great mythologist Joseph Campbell. He said that every hero in mythology is given a test and equipped with the necessary tools and preparation to accomplish his or her goals (think Frodo in "Lord of the Rings"). Though hardly heroic in the classic sense of the word, I was certainly on a journey — life is a journey. So I asked myself the following questions, which I offer to you now.

▶ **What is your to-do list testing in this moment?** Is it your endurance, courage and/or discipline? Perhaps it's a test of faith or skill?

▶ **What tools have you been given to help you?** Do you have computer skills? A healthy body? Do you have a flexible schedule, financial resources and/or people who can offer support?

▶ **What evidence do you have that you can manage responsibilities?** When have you handled something that seemed overwhelming at the time? What did that teach you?

*— **Kim Schneiderman, MSW, LCSW,** is a psychotherapist in New York City. This column is not intended to be used as a substitute for a private consultation with a mental health professional, nor is this therapist to be held liable for any actions taken as a result of this column. If you have any concerns related to the content of this column, please make an appointment with a licensed mental health professional. E-mail Kim your questions at **askkim@metro.us**.*

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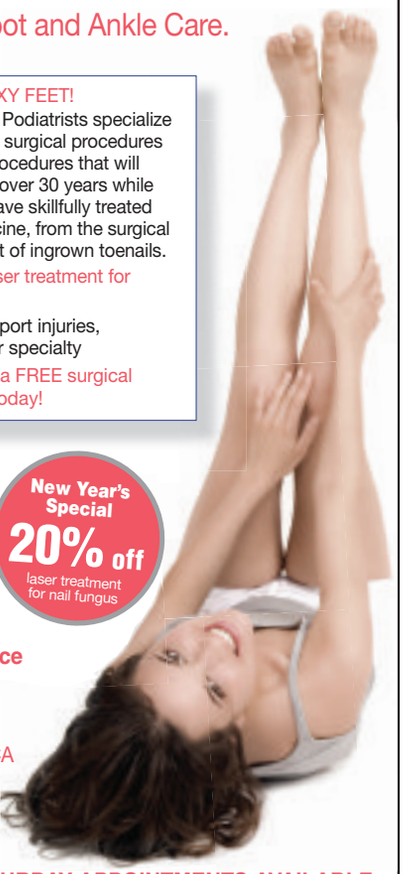

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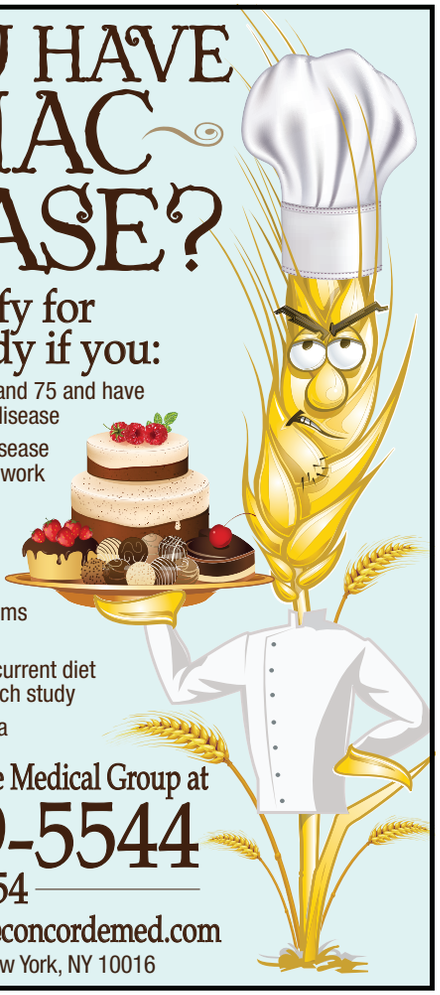

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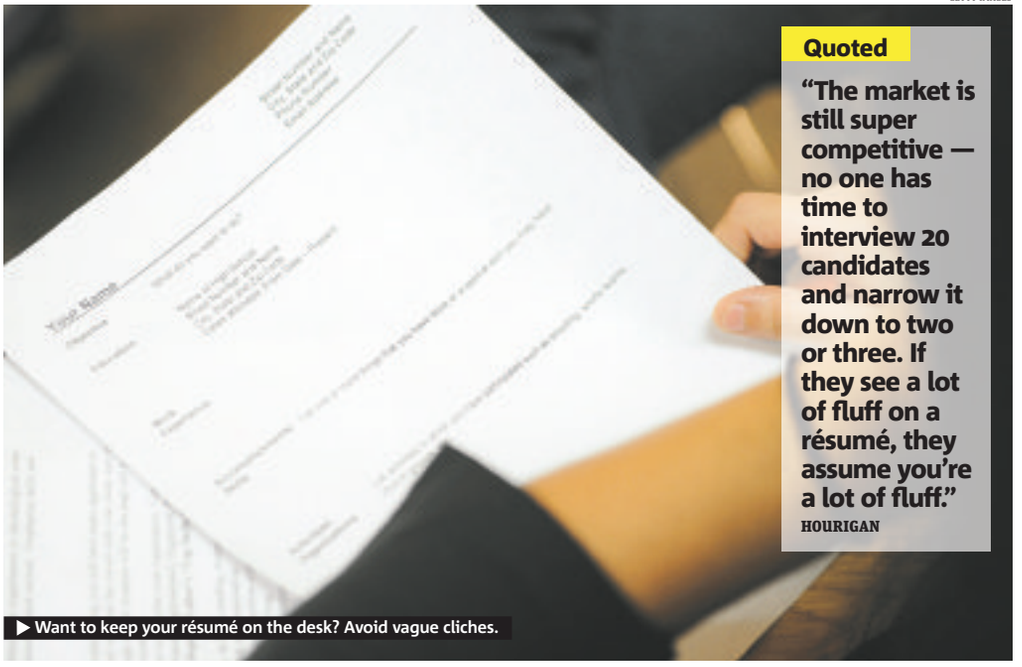

Quoted

"The market is still super competitive — no one has time to interview 20 candidates and narrow it down to two or three. If they see a lot of fluff on a résumé, they assume you're a lot of fluff."
HOURIGAN

▶ Want to keep your résumé on the desk? Avoid vague cliches.

What not to say on your job application

So you're a great team player with a strong work ethic and good communication skills? That's awesome — but keep it off your résumé and cover letter Same goes for hobbies

Last week, jobless claims dropped to a five-year low, according to the Labor Department. But while companies are finally emerging from hibernation and hiring, the competition is still tough. How do you make your résumé stand out in 2013? We checked in with Lori Hourigan, a regional vice president with staffing firm Robert Half International, who has seen her share of weak résumés.

Avoid vague cliches

One of the biggest problems, says Hourigan, is cheesy résumé-speak. "Great communication skills," "team player," "strong work ethic": These phrases are not only overused, but they don't mean anything without stats to back them up.

Pro tip

It's time to drop the "objective" component of your résumé, says Hourigan. It's unnecessary if your résumé is tailored to the job description, and it's the easiest place for cliches to sneak in.

"They're totally overused, and it's like anything else — people stop paying attention all together, and then it becomes irritating," she says. "You have to get specific. I was a team player when, how? It's OK to say, but then have something to back it up."

Another one to avoid? "Seasoned professional." Hourigan points out that, more than anything, this makes you sound dated.

Know your audience (aka, a search engine)

Not only should you tailor your résumé to the position, but you should keep in mind that a computer is likely reading it first — and computers appreciate direct language with keywords from the job description. "We now have all these fancy filtering systems that go through and pick up keywords," says Hourigan. "And I've gotta tell you, these key words aren't 'great communication skills' and 'terrific team player.'"

Monica Weymouth
monica.weymouth@metro.us

Keep your hobbies to yourself

In most fields, your résumé is not the place to list hobbies — not that this stops many job seekers. "It's great if your boss has the same exact hobby," says Hourigan. "But 99 percent of the time, your boss is going to say, 'What do you mean you square dance on the weekend?'"

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Advice

It's time to take social media seriously

Surely you've already noticed the rise of social media marketing. Whether it's independent contractors for hire or a new position carved out specifically to handle a company's web presence, a career in social media is no fad. We learned some tricks from the experts on how to stay ahead of the competition.

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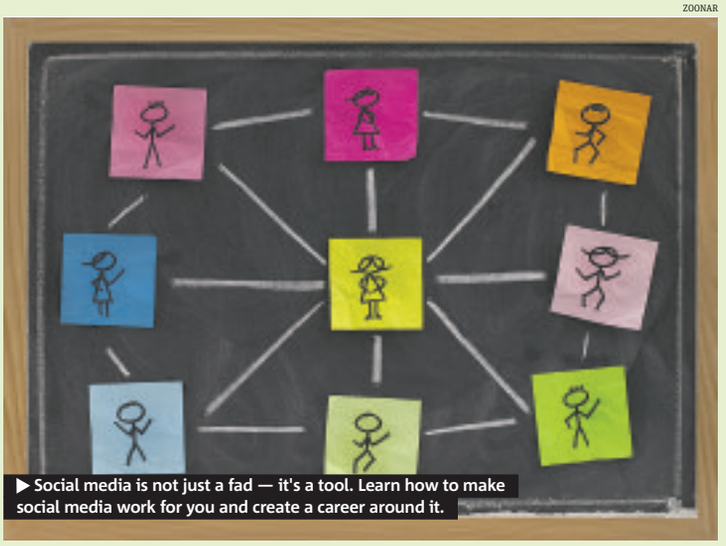

▶ Social media is not just a fad — it's a tool. Learn how to make social media work for you and create a career around it.

▶ **Use the right tools:** It's not just about monitoring Facebook and Twitter pages, it's crucial that you also use Google Analytics and Alerts. "Create a Google Alert on your business so that it comes to your inbox," suggests Anny Deirmenjian Deese, director of public relations and marketing at Davio's Restaurants. "It's important to know what people are saying about your business every day."

▶ **Dedicate time to learning and educating:** Social networking does not stand still, and neither should you. "Every week, there are new tools and opportunities across social networks," says Deese. "Spend time reading, learning and joining the conversation." What you learn, you should also share. "Believe it or not, many people don't understand the value of social media, aren't on Facebook and have never seen a tweet," says Dr. William J. Ward, Syracuse University social media professor. "Get ready to do a lot of educating."

▶ **Focus on your own page:** When you're looking for an online media marketing position, you should make sure your feeds look exciting to future employers. "A Facebook page should demonstrate understanding of how to create content, target an audience and measure the return on investment through analytics," says Carin Warner, founder and president of Warner Communications.

JULIA WEST

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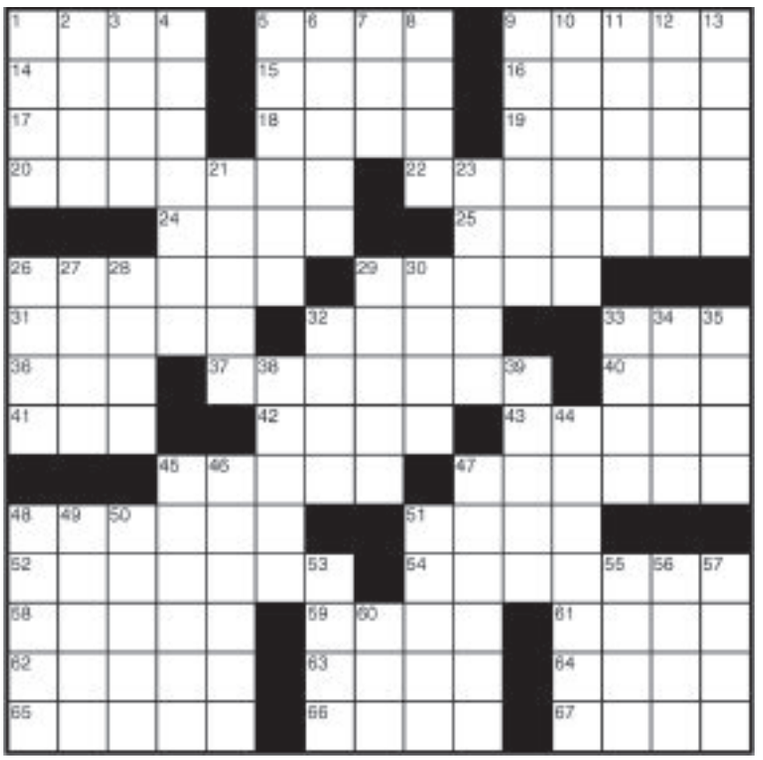
Horoscope

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** You are not likely to make a good decision if you're forced to do so under pressure. Don't let yourself be pushed into coming up with an immediate answer.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Something you previously failed to attend to properly could demand your attention. If you don't take care of the problem once and for all, it will remain a burr under your saddle.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Being too assertive can make it difficult for you to get others to follow your lead. Respect others' abilities, and treat people as if they have some common sense of their own.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Although you and your mate might have the same objective, your methods could conflict. If neither of you will compromise, trouble is likely.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Even though you're usually a rather easygoing individual, you could have a chip on your shoulder today. Try not to read too much into other people's words or actions.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** It's entirely up to you to protect your interests in both financial and social situations. Unless you look out for yourself, you could end up being the scapegoat.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** As long as you stick to your blueprint, things should go rather smoothly. Let another lead you astray, however, and you can kiss your careful plans goodbye.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** To be productive, you must be well organized and methodical. If you get off on the wrong foot, you might not find your equilibrium.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Don't let friends get you involved in something that you don't like doing and can't afford, to boot. Be selective regarding your social activities.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** No one is questioning your capacity to achieve, but you first need to set goals that are actually attainable. Try to be realistic and practical at all times.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Instead of making mountains out of molehills, strive to be pragmatic. Harboring a poor attitude will make life much more unpleasant than it needs to be.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** If you need to negotiate with a tough cookie who has something you want and knows it, you can win out if you are courageous and firm in your dealings.
BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Solution to weekend's crossword



Across
1 Swirling water
5 Floors
9 Feet containers
14 Libertine
15 Down the tubes
16 Be of benefit
17 "— never fly"
18 "Private Dancer" singer
19 Recoil
20 Wine repositories
22 Provided a link between
24 Ms. Dinesen
25 Except
26 Thickset
29 Ocean fish
31 Bathrobe size
32 Opera set in Egypt
33 Calendar divs.
36 Batting stat
37 Opposite of inexperienced
40 New Haven student
41 Bridal notice word
42 Zorro's marks
43 Organic compound
45 Gather together
47 Memory glitches
48 Mick, the Stone
51 Big Board letters
52 Parkas
54 Whole number
58 Plant pests
59 Game-show name
61 NASCAR standout — Earnhardt
62 Lucy's friend
63 Sotto —
64 Della Street's penner
65 Prone to sarcastic replies
66 Wool producers
67 Did a salon job

Down
1 Idle from "Monty Python"
2 Indulge, plus
3 Boring
4 Raising a ruckus
5 Off the track
6 Egg beater
7 Immeasurable time
8 Wild guess
9 Deviating, as a rocket
10 Greedily
11 Cowboy's beat
12 Minces
13 They run on runners
21 Lopsided
23 Bucolic
26 Big family
27 Order for dinner
28 Press for
29 Mounds
30 Bookie's figures
32 Hera's son
33 Rains on
34 Swiss painter Paul —
35 Gentlemen
38 Bygone airline
39 Brewer's supply
44 Risked a ticket
45 Thinks the same
46 Paltry
47 Wildcats
48 Mystery writer P.D. —
49 Loos or Bryant
50 Early Teutons
51 Sister's girl
53 Use a coupon
55 Big steel town
56 Vogue rival
57 Marsh grass
60 Deep

Letters

Don't let celebs be sole role models

RE: "DUNHAM SPEAKS OUT ABOUT RIHANNA" (METRO, JAN. 25-27) I'm so tired of hearing people talk about celebs. They are not raising your kids — you are. You are supposed to be parenting your kids! Teach your own kids what's right and wrong. They can like an artist — but when that artist does something you don't believe in, talk to your kids about why.
EBONY MARTIN, VIA E-MAIL

Women in combat not unprecedented

The news that the Pentagon has lifted the ban on women serving in combat is good news. As a political conservative, I do not see this issue as a conservative or liberal issue but one of fairness and equality. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and Gen. Martin Dempsey, who chairs the Joint Chiefs of Staff, signed the order rescinding the rule that stopped women from serving in combat on the front lines on Jan. 24. As Panetta stated, "They serve, they're wounded and they die right next to each other. The time has come to recognize that reality." As a Vietnam-era U.S. Air Force veteran, I think it is the right thing to do. Women have been serving in combat for years over in Israel. The Israeli Defense Army knows first hand that having the best soldiers in uniform shouldn't be limited to a certain gender.
SAL GIARRATANI, VIA E-MAIL

Washington's dead, but rights shouldn't be

With all due respect, what difference does it make what George Washington said? The man was worm food 200 years ago!

The right to bear arms is STILL a right that we have and will continue to hold on to. Most people can accept that. What people don't seem to have the time for anymore is to accept the discipline that must come with this particular right. Guns and discipline — the two go hand in hand in a functional society (functional being the key word) and it's our job as people to uphold it. Also, we the people have a certain responsibility with our freedoms. Giving the government the power to take that away is not a valid option. Give a country a fish and you feed it for a day. Teach a country to fish and you save it from inevitable collapse. You can quote me on it.
WALTER PURCELL, VIA E-MAIL

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3

NBA. Rondo hurt

▶ Rondo has been the emotional and on-court leader for the Celtics the past few seasons.

BRIAN BABINEAU/NBAE/GETTY IMAGES

Rondo tears ACL, out for rest of season

The Celtics were dealt a crippling blow despite yesterday's win against Miami, as it was announced that point guard Rajon Rondo tore his ACL on Friday against the Hawks. He will require surgery and miss the rest of the season. The 2013 All-Star was averaging 13.7 points, 5.6 rebounds and an NBA-best 11.1 assists per game. Boston was floundering to a 21-23 record with Rondo, and without him could miss the playoffs for the first time since 2007. METRO

Rondo's absence opens up All-Star bid

The loss of Rajon Rondo not only blows the Altantic Division wide open, it also opens a spot in next month's All-Star Game in Houston.

Two local players, both snubbed when the reserves were announced last week, have a shot at replacing Rondo on the Eastern Conference roster. Nets center Brook Lopez and Knicks guard J.R. Smith could both be considered for the open spot.

No Nets players were named to the roster despite having the third-best record in the Eastern Conference. Lopez is averaging 18.6 points, 7.3 rebounds and 2.2 blocks per game. He has never been an All-Star. METRO

In the news

Djokovic takes Aussie crown

Novak Djokovic took his third straight Australian Open title early yesterday morning in the United States.

Djokovic beat reigning U.S. Open champion Andy Murray in four sets, 6-7 (2), 7-6 (3), 6-3, 6-2. It was his fourth Australian Open title and sixth major win overall.

"Winning it three in a row, it's incredible," Djokovic said after the match. "It's very thrilling. I'm full of joy right now."

Idzik's hiring all in the Jets family

Jets general manager John Idzik spent his first moments in the team's facility last Thursday morning, but his journey to the Jets began as a 15-year-old, running on the field after training-camp sessions in Hempstead, N.Y.

John J. Idzik, the father of the Jets general manager, had a career that spanned four decades and included a stop with the Jets as offensive coordinator from 1976 to '79. His son remembers that time well.

"I treasure those times. Not only for observing my dad in different environments and how he worked, but more importantly he taught me life lessons that extend well beyond football. I think you get a sense from me that family, cohesion and teamwork are at my core. They're at the core of the New York Jets," Idzik said. "That's been my experience in the league, too. Whenever you can build a cohesive unit, it's trustworthy and they're dedicated to a common cause, to each other."

His father's life took him to Ottawa of the Canadian Football League and college stints at Detroit and Tulane before the NFL came calling. One man who remembers Idzik's father well is legendary Jets wide receiver Wesley Walker, who made the 1978 Pro Bowl in the elder Idzik's offense.

"Some coaches and coordinators are so rigid that they come in and it is their system and only their system. Sometimes they don't see and adjust to the talent they have," Walker said. "John [J.] Idzik is not one of those men. He was always looking to maximize what was around him."

Quoted

"I may be a little bit biased here, but my dad was a heck of a coach."

JOHN IDZIK, NEW JETS GM

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Sports in brief

Report: Mets show interest in signing Oswalt

MLB. The Mets don't have much money to spend, but that doesn't mean they aren't looking at big names.

ESPN New York reported yesterday that the Mets are looking at free agent starting pitcher Roy Oswalt. Oswalt, 35, is most remembered for his time in Houston, where he went 143-82 in 10 seasons. But he's spent the past three seasons mostly injured. He made just nine starts for Texas in 2012 after signing midseason.

The Mets will also reportedly take another look at Brian Wilson, who the team previously scouted. He is returning from Tommy John surgery. METRO

St. John's beats Seton Hall, now third in Big East

NCAAB. St. John's took apart their inter-city rival, Seton Hall, at the Garden yesterday.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Harrison

The 71-67 victory pushed the Red Storm's record to 5-3 in the Big East, trailing only Marquette and Syracuse.

D'Angelo Harrison led the Storm with 24 points on 6-of-13 shooting. They host DePaul (10-9, 1-5) on Wednesday. METRO

Rangers sign veteran Arnott

NHL. The Rangers added 38-year-old center Jason Arnott this weekend.

The deal is still pending a physical, but would be worth $1.2 million.

Arnott spent five seasons on the Devils and scored the Stanley Cup-winning goal in 2000. He played for St. Louis last season. METRO

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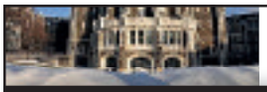

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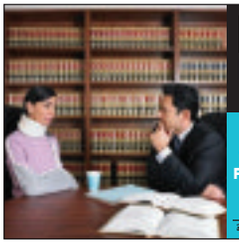

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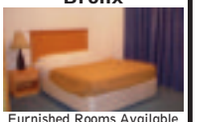
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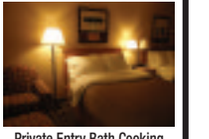
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Benjamin Franklin High School

Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 6, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition from Medpark 30 LLC to continue to, to maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk café at 41 East 30th Street, in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of two years.

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE PROPOSED REVOCABLE CONSENT AGREEMENT MAY BE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Regal Funding of New York, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/7/2012. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: LLC, 14 Penn Plaza, Suite 2004, New York, NY 10001. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1267496, for On-Premises Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine, Beer & Liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 65 W 55th Street, New York, NY 10019, New York Countyfor on-premises consumption. ALS SOLUTIONS LLC d/b/a TANG PAVILION

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Netra Technologies of New York LLC.Art. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/14/2012. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: LLC c/o 112 West 34th Street, 17th Fl. New York, NY 10120 Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number Pending, for Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1140 Broadway, Store #3, New York, NY 10001, for on-premises consumption. GVI Broadway, LLC.

Invitation for Bid & Vendor Contract Sealed bids will be received at Parsons Preschool at 84-60 Parsons Blvd Jamaica NY 11432 until noon on February 12, 2013 for meal catering service at Parsons Preschool 84-60 Parsons Blvd, Jamaica NY 11432 Specifications for 160 breakfasts, 160 lunches and 160 snacks may only be obtained by contacting Michelle Pascucci at Parsons Preschool 8am-4pm M-F (718)298-6161 ext.215 . All work will be conducted in strict accordance with bid specifications. Bids will be opened and read on February 13 , 2013 at 9AM

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HIRING

STATE BANK OF INDIA, NEW YORK BRANCH IS LOOKING TO HIRE SUITABLE CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF ENTRY-LEVEL CLERKS.

Candidates should possess minimum educational qualifications of High School Diploma or equivalent and be capable of working in a computerized environment. Work experience in a commercial Bank is desirable. The position carries annual compensation of $23400 plus group life insurance, health & dental insurance and 401K benefits. **Interested candidates may please submit the resumes to: vppna.nyb@statebank.com on or before February 08, 2013.**

Those who have applied earlier need not apply.
(SBI NEW YORK IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ORGANIZATION)

Frequent BATHROOM TRIPS?

Bell Ezee Flow Herbal Tea #4a

■ **Men** Natural nutritional support for urinary ease & comfort. Relief within 3-5 days from dribbling, discomfort, urgency, poor flow. Instead of getting up many times most need to get up only once or not at all each night. For many years a favorite for mature men. Good sleep helps to have more energy all next day. Also blood flows more easily where it counts for better sex life. Thousands of satisfied repeat customers. No side effects. We have literally hundreds of testimonials.

■ **I was skeptical.** I bought a box and it worked as advertised. Within a week I had relief. *Howard Toy, 69, Henderson, NV* ■ **It's heaven to sleep through the night.** For many years I had 6-7 sleep interruptions every night. Had urgent trips to the bathroom day and night with discomforts. I enjoy my new life. *Angus Pike, Oshawa, ON*

■ **I am truly amazed and relieved.** After 2 weeks I no longer have to get up during the night. I'm enjoying a normal sex life again. I hope a lot of men with a pride issue give this tea a shot. It's difficult to express how delighted I am. *Clarence A. Rehrig, 58, Allentown, PA*

■ **Know the truth.** This is my third year of drinking the Ezee Flow Tea. I highly recommend it. A real life saver. *Thomas M. Thurston, Forsyth, GA.* ■ **Women** suffering with incontinence, UTIs ask for Bladder Control Tea for Women #4b. Guaranteed relief within days. **No need to make claims. Bell relays 100% truthful user's free speech. No money is paid for it. No questions asked guarantee.**

#26

Blood Pressure Formulation

Dr. C. Hammoud M. H., PhD, recommends this natural, effective fish peptide product to nutritionally support the body's normal blood pressure function. *A science-backed herbal phytonutrient. Promotes flexible, relaxed blood vessels in healthy persons. *A one-of-a-kind formula that offers unprecedented nutritional support for your overall health and well-being. *We have thousands of repeat customers. Blood pressure is a focal point of cardiovascular wellness. *Achieve your balance and maintain your balance and a healthy range.

■ **Bell Blood Pressure Formulation helped me feel great.** Thank you for this wonderful product. *William Oliver, Portsmouth, VA* ■ **I have been taking Bell #26 now for one year.** My mom and brother started taking it as well. Even my pastor is on it now. Thanks! *Mary Earl, Longview, TX* ■ **I started to take Bell Blood Pressure Formulation Formulation #26.** After about 30 days my blood pressure was normal. My doctor was very happy with me. Irene Surridge, 67, Owen Sound, ON ■ **A friend recommended Bell BP Formulation!** When a friend had good results I decided to try it. After taking Bell Blood Pressure Formulation #26. It made a difference in my life. *Milton Perdomo, 68, Rego Park, NY.* **No need to make claims. Bell relays 100% truthful user's free speech. No money is paid for it. No questions asked guarantee.**

CLEAR SKIN

#60

Dr. C. Hammoud, Master Herbalist, PhD, guarantees satisfaction. Helps to maintain healthy skin from the inside simply by cleansing the blood, instead of attacking the skin from the outside with creams or washes. *This makes sense. Usually you can see how it benefits your skin within days. *Many people wrote they were surprised how fast it worked. Lots of testimonials from pleased users on our Bell website. There is absolutely no risk for trying Dr. Hammoud's product.

■ **Last couple of years I tried everything.** Results with Bell Skin Disorders #60 were unbelievable. I have beautiful skin again. Thanks for giving back my self-esteem. *Nelisa Royer, 28, Doral, FL* ■ **My mom bought Bell #60.** I was skeptical. It did work quickly and better than anything else. *Christopher Seraphin, 14, Brooklyn, NY.* ■ **It worked.** I no longer have to hide at home, because I was ashamed to be seen. *Agnes Casillas, 60,New York, NY* ■ **Can wear again dresses** that are backless. My skin looks fantastic. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. *Yvette Maclean, 40, Lodi, CA*

■ **I was trying everything for years** and nothing worked. I felt physical and emotional pain having to hide. Finally I found your Bell #60. I'm so grateful and impressed about how fast it worked with amazing results. *Eulalia Isabel Sanchez Martin, 30, Brampton, ON*

Skeptics can call everybody. All are real people like you or your friends.

#23

SNORING?

As recommended by Dr. Gifford-Jones M. D.

Here is proof that snoring can be corrupting your health and your marriage. Three out of 10 couples are considering divorce because of snoring says a major magazine article. You are not alone! An official survey says 48%of all people snore. 75% are affected, if you add non-snoring husbands that have snoring wives or vice versa. Snoring is caused by slack muscles in the throat. A common complaint is that people feel that they are not well rested in the morning. Many people wrote they are now sleeping like a babies. Their partners are delighted. This natural health product Sound Sleep #23 usually helps the first night. No side effects.

■ **College professor had lack of good sleeps with many interruptions** for last 8 years that made her tired during the day. Within 3 days taking Bell Sound Sleep #23 the terrible snoring stopped. I wake up feeling refreshed and energized. I can concentrate in a focused, happy manner. I feel delighted with this natural product. *Dr. Anele E. Heiges, 77, New York, NY*

■ **A life changing product.** The very first night I took the capsules and every night after I had a restful and wonderful sleep. It has been a God send and blessing. I am by nature a skeptic. The money-back guarantee convinced me to try it. *Jimmy Pay, 53,Gardendale, AC*

■ **3 Years on Bell Sound Sleep** #23. My wife and I are entirely satisfied. Snoring episodes have completely disappeared. This has improved our lives enormously. *Leo Fortin, 60, St-Georges, QC*

■ **Basically you saved my husband's life.** For the last 5 years my husband had very bad nights. Bell #23 was nothing short of a miracle. I have my husband back. No more snoring. No more napping during the day. I am telling all our friends. *Bonnie Johnson, 64, Wichita, KS*

■ **My life changed. Sleep now 7-8 hours.** I am a retired college professor and author of books. I have no more need to nap during the day. Nothing I tried helped until I started Bell Sound Sleep. I am so delighted with this product I would like to make motivational speeches to help others. *Carmen V. Caruso, 66, Ann Arbor, MI* **On the Bell Website we list phone numbers or email addresses of actual users of this product and all other Bell products. Most are delighted to talk about their relief.**

*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.

■ ***AVAILABLE IN MANHATTAN:*** **New Life Nutritional Centre** 714 W. 181 St. **Cash Rx Plus** 746 10th Ave. @ W 51st St **Cordette Drugs** 55 W 39th St @ 6th Ave. **Cross County Pharmacy** 1514 Madison Ave. @ 103rd **Food For Health** 1653 3rd Ave. **New London Pharmacy** 246 8th Ave@ 23rd St. **A Matter of Health** 1478 1st Ave. @ E 77th St. **Ajanta Pharmacy** 2718 8th Ave. @ 145th St **Arrow Pharmacy** 883 9th Ave. @ 57th St. **Blake Pharmacy** 1868 3rd Ave. @ 103rd St. **Bliss Pharmacy** 1590 Madison Ave. @ 107th St. **C & C Nutrition** 561 W 179th St. @ St. Nicholas Ave. **Dile Punab Deli** 170 9th ave @20th @21st ST. **Harlem RX Pharmacy** 102W. 116TH St. **Health IS Wealth** 184 7th Ave. **Earth Matters** 177 Ludlow St. @Houston St. **Elm Health** 1695 1st Ave. @ E 88th St. **Metro Drugs** 7 West 14th St. near 5th Ave. **Metro Drugs** 931 Lexington Ave. @ 68th St. **#92 Pharmacy** 1938 2nd Ave @ E. 100th St. **VLV Med Pharmacy** 4085 Broadway St. **Earth Matters** 177 Ludlow St. @ Houston St. **Gary Null"s Uptown Whole Foods** 2421 Broadway St. **Health Harvest** 820 2nd Ave. **Natural Green Market** 162 3rd Ave. **Pro Health Pharmacy** 385 2nd Ave. **Pro Health Pharmacy** 370 Lexington Ave.

■ ***AVAILABLE IN ALL BOROUGHS OF NEW YORK CITY CALL US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:***

BELL

In other towns try your local health food stores first. If they don't have it and don't want to order it for you, order on our website or call us with Visa or Mastercard. S & H $9.95.

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Bell uses the power of nature to help put life back into your lifestyle